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An. E. Pay
on
Homoeopathy
Respectfully submitted to the
Faculty
of the
Homoeopathic Medical College
of
Pennsylvania

On the first day of February
in thousand eighteen hundred & fifty seven

Witnessed by

Wm. Chapman MD.

of
Georgia.

Examined by Dr. Hahn

"The perfection of a cure
consists in restoring health in a
prompt and permanent manner,
in removing and annihilating dis-
ease by the shortest, safest and most
certain means, upon principles that
are, above plain and intelligible,"

Hahnemann's Org. S. 2.

Homoeopathy

It is not my intention in this im-
perfect paper to enter into any length-
y discussion as to the comparative
merits of either system of practice.

Suffice it to say my ob-
ject is wholly of a different
character, my aim being to show

in as few words as possible the reason why after an allopathic practice of ten years I now give myself over to Homoeopathy.

Since the first day I entered upon my professional career my object has been to fulfil the great end of the true physician. to save life & to alleviate suffering.

I quit the halls of my venerable Alma Mater, having accomplished my course with that long & earnestly looked for parchment bearing the noble names of Valentine Mott Pattern Revere Daine Draper & Bedford.

I went forth armed with a mana-

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- cea. for every disease - "conquering
& to conquer". Now shall I forget
the quantities of Materia Medica
which I had gathered from the broad
and boundless allopathic fields,
ready for use at a moments wan-
ning. and began practice filled
with high hopes in anticipation of
the future. Hopes which to the
allopaths are - seldom fulfilled.

I soon obtained my
share of practice and it is not rare
in me to say, not with success -
which brought me an increase of
business, with it I soon began to
see that the system of instruction
through which I had just passed -

lacked. Something, the law, to
make these instructions valuable,
as a positive science.

How was it possible for me to fit
in my condition, at the end of
the first year. I found my beau-
tiful fancied theories of the nature
of disease & the action of medicines
empty, nothing more, a sounding board
devoid of meaning, and of no prac-
tical utility.

At the end of the second year, my
condition seemed even more hopeless
and in the third year, I found myself
lost, lost in the infinite labyrinth
of "Contraria Contrariis" "that though
of desp'nd", however I am turned

my course, too formal, to look
to any other corner for light, &
grind in the dark.

How often have I sat down and
in speaking over these matters with
my Allopathic brethren, have we
confessed mutually the superior
success of the Homeopath, and
with us, the utter uncertainty of
the practice of Medicine, our ig-
norance of the true action of the very
simplest remedial agent. Feel-
ing the force of Dr Johnson's re-
mark, when asked what a Phys-
ician was. replied 'one who
pours physic of which he knows
little into a body of which he knows

less. The best advocacy of any
new system is its success. This has
been the grand-prop to Homeopathy.
It is by its success that it has
steadily & rapidly advanced, evol-
ving itself from its original meagre
possessing the apathy of the public, a-
wakening the jealousy of the pro-
fession, winning adherents and ef-
fecting astonishing cures. And
although a system still in its infan-
cy it has in the face of the most
determined opposition gained hosts
of adherents who are ever-ready
to fight her battles and defend her
spotless character.

Sydenham in his "Opera-Magna"

Rays that "Medicine can alone be perfected by the discovery of Specifics."

This - the Philosophus et me is now within our grasp, that et me is Homeopathy, because the doctrine of Specifics is simply the doctrine of Homoeopathy. It not only discovers Specifics but also gives a law for their universal application. & it is the first successful generalization of the medical mind under the most comprehensive principle, Similia similibus curantur, a simple and universal law founded upon pure induction, not invented but discovered.

Let us examine for a few moments into the different modes in which medicine may be applied. Viz allopathically & homoeopathically.

Barker, in his treatise on principles & practice of homoeopathy says, "The term allopathy as a general term is applicable to the present prevailing system of medicine, but as ordinary practice owes much of its success to the homoeopathicity of the means such cases may be separated." We intend now to discuss the purely allopathic practice.

Contraaria contrariis curantur, is the oldest, & most natural therapeutic rule. In effect it - in effect leads

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us whom cold. to warm. our selves
whom warm to cool. our selves. This
has led w- the employment of purg-
atives in constipation - of astrin-
gents in diarrhoea. of refriger-
ants in fevers - of sedatives in pain
of blood. letting in excited states
of the system.

But this practice so natural in tho-
sery is not only unuseful but
even dangerous.

If we follow nature as our guide
we find no example of dissimilar
diseases curving each other reciproc-
ally but we observe that the one
only suspends the other - except in
cases where they blend together

which rarely occurs in acute diseases.

Pomroy has remarked⁴ that allopathic practice may in many cases palliate, but it never cures directly. It may relieve but always at the expense of the constitution of the patient.

Take for example a case illustrated on which may or may not - as a daily occurrence in practice. A patient laboring under some violent Neuralgic affection. Small doses of Opium or some of its preparations are administered. The pain is relieved, but next day it returns, the dose must be repeated day after

day, it is not only repeated, but increased, what is the consequence?

One the ~~supposing~~ may be believed but the drug in addition to removing pain acts otherwise - it disorders & deranges the digestive organs - causing head-ache - constipation &c rendering the patient miserable, so much so that relief is far from being equivalent to the disordered health.

Again in habitual constipation a purgative is administered, the bowels are opened as a primary effect, but counteraction succeeds & is superadded to the existing constipation, the dose is repeated, increased, ever long we have

following in the train haemorrhoids dyspepsia and a host of other ills - I will now say a few words in regard to blood letting. That "quinon" to the allopath.

Blood letting is objectionable on the grounds 1st of its unsuccessfulness on the one hand & on the other the danger - as compared with the employment of Specific Remedies, for it is an indirect and only palliative mode of treatment for it only relieves the urgency of the symptoms but does not effect a radical cure.

If inflammation be a name applied to a series of symptoms

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having for their primary cause "an abnormal condition of the vitality of the vessels or contents" as is believed by many, it is surely only palliative treatment. If blood is removed in order to relieve the vessels, whether directly or indirectly, as is more probable, by depressing the action of the heart. Why attack this increase of the pulse, this degenerescence of the capillaries, this symptom of symptoms, in preference to removing the cause by a specific remedy. It is deplorable as a means for although its primary effect is to reduce suddenly the action of the heart, its secondary one, which soon

follows is a state of reaction a great increase of vascular action, this must necessarily be combated by some other means. or is too often mistaken for the natural progress of the disease.

The want of success which follows blood letting may be fully or fitly illustrated in former days of bleed for a tendency of blood to the head the immediate disagreeable symptoms are relieved but the so called tendency from returns. The individual is bled periodically but with only temporary relief. For the cause of the disease has never been attacked. It is in just such cases.

that the superiority of Homeopathic treatment is witnessed in opposition to that merely palliative.

The employment of minute doses in Homeopathic practice is the greatest stumbling block to allopathy. It is seeming, by &c. contrary to reasoning deduced from what has been the dogmas of the Fathers of Medicine from the early ages to the present moment and in fact I may add that it is a subject not for sophistical arguments - but for practical illustration. One may also can from its truth. Nothing else is required - This great mystery has deterred,

many, who might otherwise have been inclined to examine the subject.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the homoeopathic law and the employment of minute doses are two things quite independent of each other.

Hahnemann, when he commenced to practise homoeopathy, employed the ordinary doses of the medicines whose pathogenesis was homoeopathic to the disease under treatment. But observing the frequent & dangerous reactions he was led gradually to diminish the dose until he arrived at the systematic plan, now adapted, in the preparation and use of homoeopathic medicines — Thus a gen-

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edy, is homeopathy not from the form it is administered, nor yet from the dose, but only from its relation to the disease.

Every remedy is homeopathic to whom it stands in the relation of similarity to the disease for which it is to serve as a remedy, whether it be used in the 3rd development or at the 4000. or more diluted; in grain. simple. drachms or once doses. If any allopath finds he can cure by this means, without degrading himself, by the use of no professional sugar pills as he imagines let him do so, and he will if he follow the law Similia

similares curanter" he as much a homoeopath as Hahnemann himself or any of his followers, but the thing is impossible, is absurd. It needs but experiments to prove - al. our it fallacy & verify on the other hand the beautiful truths in the system now laid down as our guide in Homoeopathic practice.

Large doses are opposed only to the Peculiarities of Hahnemann, not to the System of Homoeopathy.

I have been frequently asked by my Allopathic brethren, why descend to the palpable absurdity of infinitesimal doses, & the use

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of those contemptible "little pills" what can you accomplish with them? You can all in the hands of Nature the perfect cure and you get the praise, for your cures if you ever have any, are spontaneous?

Allow me to ask in reply why it is that allopaths never are so fortunate as to make spontaneous cures, but "are contrain'd their cases get well in spite of the Dr and his medicine, (thanks to a kind Providence & a good constitution) many times.

The experience of such painful & dangerous aggravations, which are

never in any case necessary to a cure. led. Hahnemann to employ minute doses.

Even theoretically we may miss in some measure. I think, all the possibility of minute doses effecting the economy, for in chemistry we see many analogous facts, I will continue now for illustrations which perhaps has some use for the same purpose. Many times & it will occur even on this occasion.

A solution of common salt. in a million parts of water is detected by a very weak solution of nitrate of silver & iron separates copper from a solution containing only the

Fifty-millionth part of that salt.
We have also the extraordinary experiments of Spallanzani upon
the impregnation of frog-spawn, by immersing it in water in which
only ~~one~~ so much male sperm was
dissolved as to give the $\frac{1}{2994687500}$
part of a grain to each egg.

If such very minute quantities as affect
act, can or not. Suppose equal
by minute quantities of medicine
affecting a much more susceptible
able machine, a living body, con-
sidered. Still more delicate. by pos-
sessing at the time a peculiar sus-
ceptibility to the action of the
medicine. . It is a well known

onstrated fact. that the organism
is much more susceptible of the
action of homo-genes or similar
than heterogeneous or dissimilars
insects.

In Paphia from enormous quantities
of wine & spirit are taken
without bad effects, whereas
a minute quantity would act vi-
olently if given to a patient lab-
orating under inflammatory fevers
or Phrenitis.

Again we may apply a degree
of heat to the hand without the
least inconvenience, which were
it burned. would be intolerable.
this fact any one may test for himself.

It has been said
that "the susceptibility of the animal
frame of its specific irritant is somewhat
analogous to that of a chemical solu-
tion for its specific reagent."

"An inflamed eye is disagreeably
impressed and the inflammation in-
creased by the ordinary light of
day - an inflamed ear by the light
est-noises, but the report of artillery
does not affect the inflamed eye and
the dazzling light has no effect upon
the inflamed ear". Thus it is that
Homeopathy enters into similar ~~ways~~
as to the operation of their remedial
agents.

Many cities ascribe to us the following

of practicing in the old method with our dilutions, & instead of an emetic for example, they say that we administer the 3rd dilution of Tartar Emetic and purge with the 3rd dilution of Salap.

This results from inexorable ignorance or intentional misrepresentation for we employ the dilutions of those remedies for removing the Coughs. or diarrhoeas adapted to them, but not to provoke these symptoms for which purpose an other form. & dose would be demanded.

To the opponents of Homoeopathy who endeavor to prove the inefficacy of our remedies, by the argument -

"That a healthy man may devour the contents of a whole pocket case of Homeopathic medicines without feeling the least effect".

Or this speak. or reply, that the peculiarities of these remedies are ad. to operate upon the healthy but only upon individuals whose disease bears to them a specific relation and affinity.

The ground work of all practice is a knowledge of the subject to be treated, and also the remedy, this presupposes an accurate acquaintance with Physiology, Pathology, Etiology & Causiology. but it seems our allopatho

ie. Wethers seem to think quite differently. Thus they say "all that a Homoeopath wants is Symptoms & Symptoms only."

Mr. Trew. Homoeopathic Physician in addition to scientific & professional attainments, must & possess of circumspection & tact, a knowledge of the human heart, prudence & patience to be able to form to himself a true & complete image of the disease.

For the practical application of the Homoeopathic law, the first step necessary to be observed is forming to ourselves "a correct image of the disease", To attain this object we are

to listen - write - interrogate, and
lastly arrange.

The examination is first to bear upon
the history of the case
Secondly upon the patient himself
and third upon the disease.

Rahnemann has recommended["] that
every detail of the case should be com-
mitted to paper. — a practice which
in proportion as it is carefully per-
formed will facilitate the diag-
nosis as well as treatment.

The totality of the symptoms which
characterizes a given case, or in
other words the image of the disease
being once committed to paper the
most difficult part is accom-
plished. The physician ever af-

-ter has this image before his eyes
to serve as a basis to his treatment,
especially when the disease is chronic - He can then study it in all
of its parts & draw from it the characteristic marks in order to oppose
these symptoms - That is to say to
the disease itself - A remedy
that is perfectly homoeopathic -
whose choice has been decided
on according to the nature of
the similar symptoms which it
produces from its simple action upon
the body. And if during the course
of the treatment he inquires after
the effects of the remedies, and the
changes that have taken place in,

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the state of the patient, it only
remains to obliterate from the group
of primitive symptoms, those which
have entirely disappeared, to note
down those of which there are
still some remains, and add the
new ones which have "superceded".

Bah. Aug. 2104.

The second necessary step in the
application of the homeopathic
law is the careful selection of
the remedy.

The selection of a homeopathic rem-
edy is not a mere mechanical
process, requiring only an effort of
memory or a recourse to "reper-
toires", but demands the greatest

comprehension examination & presupposes an extensive acquaintance with medical science

The similarity of the remedy to the image of the disease must not only be in appearance, but similar if possible in cause. For example if the cause of the disease be an inflammation of the brain, a remedy is to be chosen which has a tendency to produce this pathological condition & if the exciting cause can be traced to an abuse, for instance of spirituous liquors, a remedy would be selected which approaches the nearest in its action to that of alcohol -

Again if in few the patient complains
of headache, we would be guided
by the other symptoms in judging
if this was idiopathic or if it
was symptomatic. Keeping the
other symptoms in view we might
probably in the first instance give
Belladonna, in the latter Oxymonica,
as in forming an analysis of the dis-
ease, we at first look to disease
the occasional cause, & in selecting
the remedy we seek for a cor-
responding similarity.

Experience now en-
ables us to choose medicines which
are particularly adapted to a
train of symptoms - arising from

certain causes for example. in Neuralgia from cold or chills, the medicines which are indicated would be Sulcamara - Mix Somica or perhaps Acmito, if it appeared after violent fever. Arsenicum - on China if from an attack of mercury. Verum - Repar sulphuris If to fears we would be led to consult Chamomilla Mix Somica or Bryonia. If indigestion caused by fat things Pulsatilla If the disease could be traced to venereal excess or loss of blood - China Mix Dr & Phosacid Ruck Stomach greatly curtails the number of medicines among-

which to choose - but the further determination which particular remedy to select. out of several. which have these tendencies is governed by the aggregate of the symptoms.

Before I close I would repeat again - afterwards. to the doser of Homeopathic Medicines all must feel that the attempts as yet. made. to account for the efficacy of minute doses, are incomplete. but at the same time it is cheering to think that we have. to do. not with how. they act. That they do act we have proved. by a thousand experiments the truth of which cannot for a

moment be impugned.

With those who deny what they
cannot explain, we confess we
are unable to enter into discussion,
but if they remain firm on such
foundations of belief - we will
grant the value of their decision,
while they first prove to us satis-
factory why three or four grades of
Carterian Quinine excites vomiting.

Further these individuals to be con-
sistent, should deny the power of
contagion of malaria for tho' thou-
sands fall, victims yearly to its
influence, who has yet discov-
ered this weight, measure, or com-
position, these things are in expli-

able yet - who dares deny its power?

In mechanical philosophy and in chemistry, are we not contented with the simple observation of phenomena, and do we not leave unattempted the modes by which they operate?

Like this the efficacy of minute does, is at present in ultimate fact and beyond that we cannot proceed.

These are great mysteries which we must leave to the Great Author who intended the whole & to discern the purpose in which we alone are interested, who has

wisely secured to himself the nature
and control of first causes, and
who has thereby restricted our in-
quiries to the only useful object
of knowledge, their various pha-
nomena.

Ever wishing & praying
for the success of Homoeopathy
in general and of the Homoeopath-
ic Medical College of Philadel-
phia in particular. I remain
Yours truly.

Very Oricerly & truly yours
Wm Gopman MD.